ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

SLATO Medic Study No. 92: Studies on the Pathology of Liver

Diseases in Thailand: The Character

of Viral Hepatitis in Thailand

Project No. 3A 025601 & 811: Military Medical Research Program

S. E. Asia

Task Ol: Military Medical Research Program

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Subtask Ol: Military Medical Research Program

SEASIA (Thailand)

Reporting Installation: U.S. Army-SMATO Medical Research

Laboratory, APO 146, San Francisco,

California

Division of Medical Research Laboratories

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Department of Geographic Pathology

Period Covered by Report: 1 April 1963 to 31 March 1964

Principal Investigator: Natth Bhamrapravati, M.D.

Associate Investigators: Vikit Teranuvatti, M.D. **

Uthai Suchinda, A.D. Captain Sylvanus W. Nye, USAF, MC

Praphasri Nimsomburana, M.D.

Reports Control Symbol: MEDDH-238

Security Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

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ABSTRACT

SEATO Medic Study No. 92:

Studies on the Pathology of Liver Diseases in Thailand. The Character

of Viral Hepatitis in Thailand

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Captain Sylvanus W. Nye, USAF, MC Praphasri Nimsomburana, M.D.

Reports Control Symbol:

MEDDH-288

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The objective of this study is to make a detailed clinical and laboratory study of viral hepatitis in Thailand in order to demonstrate clinical

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pathological correlations and any variations from the expected pattern which may occur in Thailand. Patient selection for liver biopsy is being done by the pediatricians and internists of Vajira and Siriraj Hospitals. The laboratory studies being done are: hemogram; coagulation tests; liver function tests; including bilirubin, total proteins, electrophoresis and transaminase and antibody titers for leptospira, dengue virus, chikungunya, virus and rickettsia. Data from the clinical history, physical findings and hospital course are being recorded on a master sheet for each patient. The program has been in operation for one month and approximately eighteen liver biopsies have been obtained. No conclusions can be drawn at this time.

BODY OF REPORT

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correlations and any variations from the expected pattern, which occur in Thailand. In Thailand where hepatitis occurs endemically, cases with atypical pathologic features are frequently encountered. The features of hepatitis in different geographical areas should be investigated with two factors being considered. First, that the infectious agent in various areas even though closely related might be slightly different, and second that the host responses may be altered by racial characteristics, or by pre-existing conditions in the host, such as the nutritional status, genetic factors or parasitic infestations. The study will fill in our knowledge about viral hepatitis in South East Asia and will complement similar studies being done in other parts of the world.

Description: To accomplish this study a central registry and histopathological laboratory to handle the collection of material, clinical records and laboratory records and processing of tissue has been established at the birinaj Hospital Pathology Department. The clinical and laboratory data and follow up data are being put on special forms for ready reference. Patient selection for the liver biopsies is being done by the internists and pediatricians of Sirinaj and Vajira Hospitals, and the biopsies are being performed by them or their staffs. Serial biopsies accompanied by serial liver function tests are being obtained, circumstances permitting. The blood for laboratory studies is being collected by the staff and the chemical determinations are being done at both Sirinaj and the SIAFO Medical Research Laboratory.

The appended clinical and laboratory protocol sheet lists the laboratory studies which are being done. Paired sera are being obtained for antibody titers.

To assure that adequate clinical history and significant data from the physical examination and hospital course is obtained, a research fellow and his assistant are visiting the hospitals daily to be sure that the protocols are completed in detail.

It is expected that approximately 500 liver biopsies may be available from Siriraj Hospital and that approximately 250 biopsies may be obtained from Vajira Hospital. In addition, it is planned to study approximately 60 autopsies that are expected annually on patients with liver disease at Siriraj Hospital. Liver biopsy specimens whenever possible, will be fixed for electron microscopy and quenched for immunofluorescent studies. Routinely, hemotoxylin and eosin, iron and reticulum stains will be done. For the analysis, data on each case will be stored in uniform fashion in an indexed case registry. A parallel file will be kept of the microscopic slides and any photographs or other specimens obtained from the patient. The data from these files will be transferred to a punch card system.

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<u>Progress</u>: The project has been functioning for one month and approximately 18 liver biopsies have been obtained in this period. Seed from these patients have been stored in a minus 85°C freezer until the Biochemistry laboratories at the SAATO Laboratory are fully functional.

Summary and Conclusions: No conclusions possible at this time.